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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

Programme budget implications of draft resolutions A/47/L.17 and A/47/L.18

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolutions

1. Draft resolution A/47/L.17

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 5, 12, 15 and 16 of draft resolution A/47/L.17, the General Assembly would:

(a) Approve the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 1992, including the programme of work envisaged for 1993 (para. 5); 1/

(b) Request the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out those actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet attained independence and, in particular:

(i) To formulate specific proposals for the elimination of the remaining manifestations of colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session;

(ii) To make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter of the United Nations with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security;

(iii) To continue to examine the compliance of Member States with resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(iv) To continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, in particular through the dispatch of regular visiting missions, and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence;

(v) To take all necessary steps to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations (para. 12);

(c) Request the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination and independence (para. 15);

(d) Request the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the resolution, as well as of the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee (para. 16).

2. Draft resolution A/47/L.18

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 1, 3 and 5 of draft resolution A/47/L.18, the General Assembly would:

(a) Approve the chapter of the report of the Special Committee relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization (para. 1); 2/

(b) Request the Secretary-General, taking into account the suggestions of the Special Committee, to continue to take concrete measures through all the media at his disposal, including publications, radio and television, to give widespread and continuous publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(i) To continue, in consultation with the Special Committee, to collect, prepare and disseminate basic material, studies and articles

relating to the problems of decolonization and, in particular, to continue to publish the periodical Objective: Justice and other publications, special articles and studies, including the Decolonization series, and to increase the information on all the Territories under consideration by the Special Committee, selecting appropriate material for wider dissemination by reprints in various languages;

(ii) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(iii) To intensify the decolonization-oriented activities of all United Nations information centres;

(iv) To maintain a working relationship with the Organization of African Unity and appropriate regional and intergovernmental organizations, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, by holding periodic consultations and exchanging information;

(v) To solicit, in consultation with United Nations information centres, assistance in the dissemination of information on decolonization from non-governmental organizations;

(vi) To continue to produce comprehensive press releases for all meetings of the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies;

(vii) To ensure that the necessary facilities and services to that end are made available;

(viii) To report to the Special Committee on the measures taken in the implementation of the resolution (para. 3);

(c) Request the Special Committee to follow the implementation of the resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session (para. 5).

B. Relationship of the requests to the programme of work

3. The activities called for in draft resolution A/47/L.17 would fall under subprogramme 2, Trusteeship and decolonization, of programme 4, Special political questions, trusteeship and decolonization, 3/ which would become subprogramme 3, Self-determination, trusteeship and decolonization, under the revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, 4/ as recommended by the Committee for Programme and Coordination in its report 5/ for adoption by the General Assembly at its current session. Furthermore, the information activities proposed in draft resolution A/47/L.18 would relate to programme 38, Public information, of the medium-term plan. 6/

4. The estimated cost of the anticipated activities of the Special Committee was provided for in section 6 of the programme budget for the biennium

1992-1993 7/ in view of their "perennial" character. The related appropriation under that subsection amounted to $538,600 for the biennium. Following the restructuring of the Secretariat, the portion of the appropriation relating to the requirements for the last 18 months of the biennium is proposed for transfer to section 37, Department of Political Affairs. 8/ In addition, the substantive servicing of the Special Committee was initially programmed under subprogramme 2, Trusteeship and decolonization, of section 6 of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. 9/ Following the restructuring of the Secretariat, resources for the period 1 July 1992-31 December 1993 are also proposed for transfer to section 37. The information activities in relation to decolonization are programmed under the activity "self-determination and decolonization" of subprogramme 1, Promotional services, and under various activities of subprogramme 2, Information services, of section 31, Public information, of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. 10/

C. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

5. The activities required for the implementation of the requests contained in operative paragraphs 5 and 12 of draft resolution A/47/L.17 are referred to by the Special Committee in paragraphs 114 to 124 of its annual report to the General Assembly. 1/ These activities were programmed for the most part under section 6, of the programme budget for 1992-1993. The full cost of implementing the programme of regular activities under draft resolution A/47/L.17 in 1993 is estimated at $247,600 and a breakdown of this estimate appears in the annex to the present document. In addition, a seminar would be organized by the Special Committee in 1993 in the Pacific region, as referred to in paragraph 116 of the Committee's report, in response to activities to be undertaken within the context of the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism approved by the General Assembly in it resolution 46/181.

6. Requirements for the dispatch of a mission to Western Sahara during the holding of the referendum in the Territory, referred to in paragraph 121 of the Special Committee's report (A/47/23 (Part I)) is foreseen as a regular activity of the Special Committee and has been accounted for as one of its proposed visiting missions in 1993.

7. As regards the activities outlined in paragraph 1 (c) above, it is estimated that no additional resources would be required for their implementation at the present stage. Should the need for United Nations assistance to be provided to particular States arise in the course of 1993, the plans for those activities would be submitted to the General Assembly or the Economic and Social Council for consideration in due course.

8. The activities referred to in paragraph 1 (d) above were also initially programmed in terms of substantive servicing of the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies under subprogramme 2, of section 6 of the 1992-1993 programme budget. The related resources were appropriated under section 6 of

the 1992-1993 programme budget and are now proposed for transfer to section 37. No additional resources for substantive servicing of the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies would therefore be required. Furthermore, the meetings of the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies at Headquarters are included in the 1993 calendar of meetings and conferences 11/ and at this stage, it is therefore anticipated that their cost would be accommodated from within the resources approved under section 32, Conference and library services, which are now proposed for transfer to section 41, Administration and management, of the programme budget for 1992-1993.

9. The activities required for the implementation of the requests contained in paragraph 2 above, are referred to by the Special Committee in chapter III of its report (A/47/23 (Part II)) to the General Assembly. They have been programmed in the programme budget for 1992-1993 under section 31, subprogrammes 1 and 2.

D. Modifications required in the proposed programme of work for 1992-1993

10. Should the General Assembly approve the requests contained in draft resolution A/47/L.17, their implementation would require modification in the citation of activities initially programmed under section 6 of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, as referred to in the Secretary-General's report in document A/C.5/46/80, as follows:

Subprogramme 2: Trusteeship and decolonization

Activity 2 (b), (vi) Substantive servicing of a seminar to review the progress achieved in the implementation of the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

11. In respect of the requests outlined in draft resolution A/47/L.18, their implementation would not require any modification in the citation of activities under section 31 of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

12. On the assumption that the Special Committee would organize a seminar in the Pacific region for four days in May or June 1993, and bearing in mind established practice, whereby the Special Committee is authorized under the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 1654 (XVI) of 27 November 1961 and 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970 to meet elsewhere other than at United Nations Headquarters whenever and wherever such meetings might be required for the effective discharge of its functions, it is estimated that additional requirements would arise as follows under sections 31, 37 and 41:

Section		Description	$
31	A.	Public information requirements	
		Travel and subsistence (3 staff members)	28 400
		Total A	28 400
	B.	Travel, subsistence and general operating expenses under section 37:	
37	(i)	Survey mission (3 working days)	37 800
37	(ii)	Travel and daily subsistence allowance for 6 representatives of Member States, 14 representatives from Non-Self-Governing Territories, 25 invitees including representatives of regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and experts and 8 staff members	214 200
37	(iii)	General operating expenses	41 800
		Total B	293 800
	C.	Conference-servicing requirements	
41	(i)	Travel and subsistence (7 staff members)	122 500
41	(ii)	Pre-session documentation	199 700
41	(iii)	Meeting servicing	15 400
41	(iv)	In-session documentation	5 700
41	(v)	Post-session documentation	49 800
		Total C	393 100
		Total A, B and C	715 300

F. Potential for absorption

13. It is anticipated that the additional public information requirements ($28,400) relating to the seminar in the Pacific region referred to in paragraph 12 above could be absorbed from within the appropriations under section 31 of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

14. The financial requirements for the regular activities of the Special Committee, at full cost, are estimated at $247,600 for 1993 whereas, costs relating to section 37 for the holding of a seminar in the Pacific region are

estimated at $293,800, (see para. 12 above, and annex below) for a total of $541,400. By applying a ratio of 70 per cent for actual utilization of resources, in the light of experience over the past three bienniums, it is estimated that no more than $379,000 would be required. The estimated requirements of $379,000 fall within the balance of the appropriation $448,600 under section 37 of the programme budget for the 1992-1993 biennium.

15. In respect of conference-servicing costs for the seminar to be held in the Pacific region enumerated in paragraph 12 above, the appropriation under section 41, Department of Administration and Management, Office of Conference Services, provides not only for meetings known at the time of budget preparation, but also for meetings that may be authorized subsequently. The level of the appropriation is based on past experience and assumes that the number and distribution of meetings and conferences in 1992-1993 will be consistent with the pattern of meetings in past years. On that basis, it is anticipated that the estimated additional requirements of $393,100 would be met from the approved appropriations for conference services now proposed for redeployment to section 41 of the programme budget for the 1992-1993 biennium.

G. Conclusions

16. On the basis of information provided above, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolutions A/47/L.17 and A/47/L.18, the modification in the programme of work for 1992-1993 referred to in paragraph 10 above would be required.

17. On the basis of the information provided in paragraphs 1 through 15 above, it is estimated that should the General Assembly adopt draft resolutions A/47/L.17 and A/47/L.18, no additional appropriations would be required under sections 31, 37 or 41 of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

Notes

1/ A/47/23 (Part I), chap. I, sect. J.

2/ A/47/23 (Part II), chap. III.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

4/ A/47/6 (Prog. 4).

5/ A/47/16 (Part II).

6/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. II, and A/47/6 (Prog. 38) and A/47/16 (Part II).

Notes (continued)

7/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

8/ A/C.5/47/2 and Corr.1.

9/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. I, paras. 6.14 to 6.17.

10/ Ibid., vol. II, sect. 31, part A, Programme narrative.

11/ A/47/32.

Annex

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE 1992 AND 1993 PROGRAMMES OF ACTIVITY OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (AT FULL COST)

	1992 A/C.5/46/57 and 80		1993	
	Number of events	$	Number of events	$
I. Regular activities				
1. Visiting missions	2	81 300	2	75 700
2. Missions of consultation with specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations; participation in these activities	12	74 700	12	66 000
3. Missions of consultation with OAU, OAS, CARICOM and other regional institutions in the Caribbean region and the South Pacific Forum and other regional institutions in the Pacific region	5	61 400	5	41 800
4. Mission of consultation with the President of the Economic and Social Council	1	7 000	1	7 400
5. Missions of participation in activities by non-governmental organizations	6	27 300	6	14 400
6. Participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories and individuals in the Special Committee's meetings at Headquarters	-	57 300	-	42 300
Total I		309 000		247 600
II. Holding of a seminar	1	166 900	1	293 800 a/
III. Estimated 1993 requirements (on the basis of a 70 per cent ratio of projected actual expenditures to full cost)	-	-	-	379 000
IV. Uncommitted resources of the appropriation for activities of the Special Committee under section 37 of the programme budget for 1992-1993	-	-	-	448 600

a/ Total gross estimated costs for the seminar that would arise under section 37.